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OBITUARIES.

LUCIANO CORDEIRO.

This distinguished Portuguese geographer died at Lisbon on the 22d of December, 1900, at the age of fifty-six years.

Senhor Cordeiro entered the navy as a midshipman, but soon left the service in order to devote himself to a literary career and to journalism. As a writer and a member of the Chamber of Deputies, in which he sat for a time, he was recognized at home and abroad as a vigorous and able champion of his native land.

His interest in geography was manifested throughout his career. He was the founder of the Lisbon Geographical Society, its Secretary from its beginning in 1875, and one of the contributors whose labours have made the volumes of the *Boletim* a storehouse of information on the history of Portuguese discovery and colonization.

SERPA PINTO.

Alexandre Alberto da Rocha de Serpa Pinto, one of the famous African explorers of the last century, died at Lisbon on the 29th of December.

He was born in 1846 at Tendaes, on an affluent of the Douro. In 1848 the family removed to Brazil. On their return, ten years later, Alexandre entered the Military College, and received, in 1864, a commission in the Seventh Infantry. For some years he served in East Africa.

In 1871 he returned to Europe and remained there for six years, engaged in the routine of military duty, but cherishing the thought of exploring Africa and preparing himself by study for the task:

An officer in the army, always in garrison in small provincial towns, I was accustomed to convert my leisure hours into hours of labour, and, though the opportunity of exploring Africa seemed to be problematic and very remote, the study of the questions which relate to it became my ordinary pastime; nor did I neglect astronomy. In this way my life in barracks, once my military duties discharged, was divided between the heavens and Africa.—(*How I Crossed Africa*, Vol. 1, p. 1.)

His opportunity came in 1877 when, with Brito Capello and Roberto Ivens, he set out from Benguela on the expedition to explore the hydrographic relations between the basins of the Congo and Zambezi. At Caconda the three leaders parted company; Capello and Ivens went to the north, while Serpa Pinto continued his march to the eastward by a route which he was the first to map. He descended the Zambezi, crossed the country to the eastern